

Now for something & what will
it be something foolish no some-
thing interesting I will try to
write to you. But I fear I can't
interest you. God I am considerable
out of the way of writing letters. I
have not writ a letter for quite a
while. But nevertheless I will try
to give you a verbal relation of
the contents of this letter. In regard
to the pretty girls of this neighbo-
rhood they are scared as hen teeth.
Walter M^r goes with Sally Smidiker.
Harriet Conant went to Canada &
married Dan Spots. They are back
& living on Crosskey's place. Dan
working for one dollar per day.
Oliver Butler goes to see Mollie
Smidiker think they will get married
before long. Mollie Butler plays a
long hand & gets no body.

She has got the big head so bad
& so unrelenting proud & nothing
to be proud of. That's what hurts
her. Mary Smith gets worse don't
think she will last long. Jane
a waiting on her your folks are
all well. Ades & Mary Jane lives
in the old house on the road. Her
hand is at the white house on the
hill. Think that a much better place
than Pearl you said you thought
you would be home soon & this
war would be over. Think so too as
it is don't care much. But if I
was a man I would want it to last
three or four years. God the army is
the place to make money. Would
like to get in a battle once in a
while come out victorious & see the
Rebs scatter.

Livingston Ills

May 2nd 1865

My dear cousin, do not

Attribute

my long silence, to forgetfulness, of

Indifference to you. For it is

not either. I received your precious

missive, last eve. And was Oh! so

glad, to hear from an absent rela-

tive, Especially one who's gone to

fight for his country. You spoke

about James a coming back.

I have been looking for him for

three weeks [word erased] but I have not

seen him yet. I look for him this

week. Don't know as he will ^{come} though

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Oh! what do you think of the death of
our President. I guess there is a
great many in this neighborhood
glad of it Stiles Brown said he
could pray for Ande Johnson But
he could not pray for Lincoln. I
hope Johnson will be harder on them
than Lincoln. I shall ^{have} to quit writing
before I disgrace myself writing
so much & nothing that will in=
=terest you. For I am considerabe
of a [harro?] & a very bad pen. When
James comes if he does come he will
write you a letter Answer this as
soon as you get it & I will stay
until I get an answer Give my
love inquiring friends I send my
compliments to Ben Smith would
like for him to write. Tell him to
write to father if he thinks is worth
while write soon Jennie M^c Farland
From your Affection Cousin
Distance may spread between us friend
But our Hearts unchanged will be
And our Tongues will be the faithful Pen
Heard even beyond the Sea.

Jennie

[This is written vertically on the top of the first page]

Give me
your address
in your
next letter
if you please
I have not
seen Susan
since I
came
over.
Don't know
as any one
goes with
her Don't
care if
they do
Jennie
M^c Farland
Livingston
Ills.